

# Inland Empire WATERKEEPER®

Waterkeeper is a non-profit environmental organization whose mission is to protect and enhance the water quality of the Upper Santa Ana River Watershed through programs of advocacy, education, research, restoration, and enforcement to ensure swimmable, drinkable, fishable waters



**INLAND EMPIRE WATERKEEPER®**  
*Advocacy • Education • Research • Restoration • Enforcement*

Megan Brousseau

[www.iewaterkeeper.org](http://www.iewaterkeeper.org)

# Education

## ▶ RIVER KATS: Kid Activism Through Science

- ▶ Free field trip program that provides underserved schools with trips to local water destinations in order to foster environmental stewardship

## ▶ RiverCamp

- ▶ Connects children to nature by providing them with the opportunity to learn, play, and explore in the Santa Ana River and its riparian forest.

## ▶ Little Seedlings

- ▶ Is a nature-based preschool that prepares children for kindergarten by teaching them the alphabet and numbers through the eyes of nature.



# Research & Restoration

- **STREAM TEAM**
  - Conducts weekly water quality monitoring on the Santa Ana River to ensure healthy waterways
- **CREST to COAST**
  - A series of waterway clean-ups throughout the Upper Watershed in Riverside and San Bernardino Counties
  - Since 2014, over 106,000 pounds of trash have been removed from the Santa Ana River and local tributaries



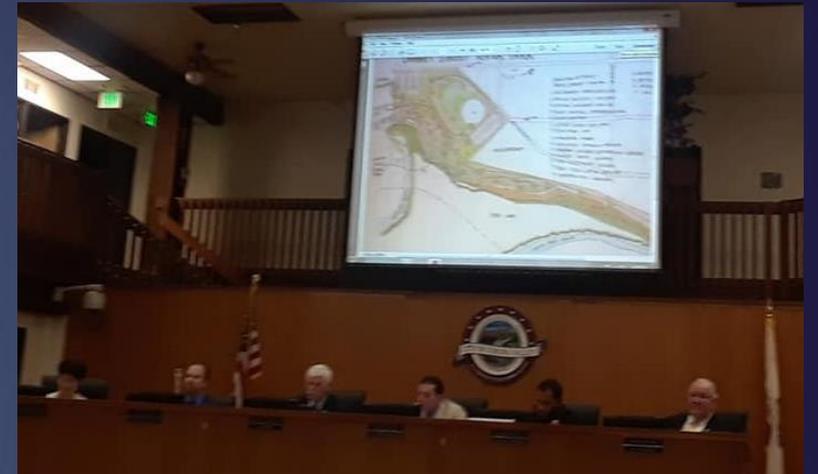
# Advocacy & Enforcement

## ▶ Advocacy

- ▶ Waterkeeper advocates on behalf of the millions of citizens in Riverside and San Bernardino Counties to ensure swimmable, drinkable, fishable waters.

## ▶ Enforcement

- ▶ Waterkeeper enforces the Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) of the Santa Ana River, MS4 permits, and agricultural permits. This work upholds the federal Clean Water Act.



# Homelessness & Water Symposium

- ▶ Waterkeeper and the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority (SAWPA) partnered to host two symposiums to address homelessness in the Santa Ana River
- ▶ Keynote speaker, Chris Brokate and his amazing work on the Russian River inspired Waterkeeper to establish the Clean Camp Coalition



# Clean Camp Coalition

- ▶ The CCC will work with municipalities, environmental organizations, and faith-based groups in order to provide a trash service to this underserved community
- ▶ The goal is to provide a trash collection service for individuals experiencing homelessness in the river
- ▶ As we collect trash throughout the middle stretch of the river, each individual will have the opportunity to accept housing services



# Homelessness & Water Conference

- ▶ Fall 2018
- ▶ San Bernardino
- ▶ Collaborative effort to ending homelessness and pollution in the Santa Ana River Watershed
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